UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,849	07/07/2004	Jean-Paul Caruana	032326-282	8748

21839 7590 10/02/2006

BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC
POST OFFICE BOX 1404
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404

EXAMINER	
CAPUTO, LISA M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2876	

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/500,849	CARUANA, JEAN-PAUL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lisa M. Caputo	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 July 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7 and 11-15* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *8-10* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *07 July 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *7/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the preliminary amendment filed 7 July 2004.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Two of the German references under Foreign Patent Documents on the IDS filed 7 July 2004 have not been considered since they were not filed with the case and were unavailable at the time of examination.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The phrase "of the type" should be removed from claims 1 and 7 since this language makes the claim somewhat indefinite (i.e. the word type allows for too much interpretation).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chalmers et al. (EP 0057602, from hereinafter "Chalmers") in view of Kreft (U.S. Patent No. 5,206,495).

Regarding claims 1, 7, and 13, Chalmers teaches an intelligent portable object and method comprising a first communication interface being of the contactless type to send and/or receive data by inductive coupling with a station (input/output circuitry 15), a peripheral circuit (circuit for display device 14) connected to the first communication interface, and a central data processing circuit (integrated circuit for performing data data logic and processing functions), wherein the data exchanged between the peripheral circuit and the central circuit passes via the station since they are not electrically connected to each other (see Figure 1, abstract, pages 2-3).

Regarding claims 1, 5, 7, 11, and 13, Chalmers fails to teach that there is a second communication interface that is connected to the central data processing circuit which sends/receives data by inductive coupling.

Kreft teaches a chip card with capabilities for both contact and contactless data transmission. Kreft teaches that two coils 4 and 5, are coupled to the semiconductor device 2. These coils are configured for bidirectional transmission of data and for transmission of energy via inductive coupling (see Figure 1, col 1, col 3, lines 3-10).

In view of the teaching of Kreft, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a second communication interface because it is more efficient to have multiple communication interfaces so that if one malfunctions, the other one is available for use. This is favorable because the system as a whole will be more efficient since the system will not be stopped for working due to a non-working interface.

Regarding claims 2 and 14-15, Chalmers teaches that the peripheral circuit is a display (display device 14), but that also a keypad (1) may be used (see Figure 1, abstract).

Regarding claim 3, Chalmers teaches that the central circuit is an integrated circuits comprising a processing unit (see Figure 1, abstract, pages 2-3).

Regarding claim 4, Chalmers fails to teach that there could be a plurality of a first type of communication interfaces.

Kreft teaches a chip card with capabilities for both contact and contactless data transmission. Kreft teaches that the chip card 1 has two coils 4 and 5, which are coupled to the semiconductor device 2. These coils are configured for bidirectional transmission of data and for transmission of energy via inductive coupling (see Figure 1, col 3, lines 3-10). Hence, Kreft teaches the use of multiple communication interfaces.

In view of the teaching of Kreft, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a second communication interface because it is more efficient to have multiple communication interfaces so that if one malfunctions, the other one is available for use. This is favorable because the system as a whole will be more efficient since the system will not be stopped for working due to a non-working interface.

Regarding claim 6, Chalmers fails to teach that the second communication interface is of the contact type.

Kreft teaches a chip card with capabilities for both contact and contactless data transmission. Kreft discloses that the chip card 1 has contacts in the contact field 3 (see Figure 1, col 2, lines 64-67).

In view of the teaching of Kreft, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a second communication interface of the contact type in addition to a contactless type because it is more efficient to have multiple communication interfaces so that if one malfunctions, the other one is available for use. This is favorable because the system as a whole will be more efficient since the system will not be stopped for working due to a non-working interface.

Regarding claim 12, Chalmers teaches a plurality of peripheral circuits when it is shown that there can be a display (display device 14), but that also a keypad (1) may be used (see Figure 1, abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 8-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The best prior art of record fails to teach the specific method steps for differing the modulation of the loads on the first communication interface, the second communication device, and the station, and further, the degrees of modulation of the data.

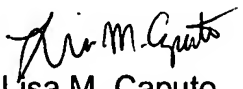
Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ***Lisa M. Caputo*** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-2388**. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 8:30AM to 5:00PM Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached at **(571) 272-2398.** The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [**lisa.caputo@uspto.gov**].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lisa M. Caputo
AU 2876
September 27, 2006